

18th October 1927]

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member, in view of the fact that this question has been with him for three months, whether he would ask the authorities concerned to expedite the report? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I understand that the report has reached the Board of Revenue. "

*Opening of the Peruvalai channel.*

\* 525 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state —

(a) whether it was announced at the Irrigation Conference held at Mandurai, Lalgudi taluk, that the Peruvalai channel will be opened on the 1st of June every year ;

(b) whether the mirasidars have put in seedlings on the strength of this announcement and in anticipation of a regular water-supply from 1st June 1927 ;

(c) whether there was a real flow of water only on the 22nd June 1927 ;

(d) whether complaints have been received regarding the failure or deficiency of water-supply in the Peruvalai channel ; and

(e) what steps the Government have taken to ensure adequate water-supply in the said channel ?

A.—The Government have no information.

*Alleged scarcity of water-supply in the Peruvalai channel.*

\* 526 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a promise of water-supply in the Peruvalai channel, Lalgudi taluk, for sugarcane cultivation during the closure period ;

(b) whether the authorities have failed to keep up that promise and whether the sugarcane crops have failed on that account ; and

(c) whether any steps will be taken by the Government to avoid such scarcity of water-supply in future ?

A.—The Government have no information.

*Investigation of the Tungabhadra dam site.*

\* 527 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of work so far carried out for the investigation of the Tungabhadra dam site ;

(b) whether any borings were taken in the river bed in the months of April and May when there was very little water in the river and if not, why not ;

(c) when the Government expect to finish this preliminary investigation ; and

(d) whether the Government would place on the table of the House a copy of the report of the Geologist to the Government of India on the dam site ?

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4.—(a) A Geologist (the Assistant Superintendent, Geological Survey of India) has inspected the site at Timmalapuram, and sent a preliminary report. He suggested to the local officers that trenches should be dug along the proposed line and when that was done and the actual width of the beds exposed he promised further inspection and report. A staff was sanctioned for this purpose in May—but it could do little before the floods began and further work will hardly be possible before January.

(b) No—the staff was not sanctioned till the end of May.

(c) Next year.

(d) A copy will be placed on the table.<sup>a</sup>

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know whether it is not a fact that it was in the third or fourth week of March that the money was sanctioned for the investigation of the Tungabadra project? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ The budget was passed in March.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know why it took two months for sanctioning the necessary staff? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ I ask for notice of that question. The application for sanctioning the staff probably reached the Government only in May.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ In view of the fact that the Geologist has stated that trenches should be dug along the proposed line, etc., may I know whether that work is going on and how long it will take? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ The work cannot be carried on while there is water in the river. The work was begun, I believe, in May, but it had to be suspended and will be resumed shortly.”

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—“ May I know how soon the work will be completed? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ That I cannot say.”

### Finance

#### *Utilization of the released Provincial contribution.*

\* 528 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance, the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any final decision has been arrived at as to the ways of spending the Provincial contribution that has been released this year, and if so, the various departments for which moneys are to be spent, giving the sums under each heading; and

(b) whether there has been any decision or proposal to reduce to any extent whatever the stamp duties or registration charges that were enhanced a few years ago?